

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A lens system comprising:
 - a first lens group on a light path;
 - a second lens group on said light path; and
 - an asymmetric aperture stop on said light path between said first and second groups.
2. The lens system of Claim 1, said asymmetric aperture stop forming a predominately circular aperture, said aperture having a side portion thereof blocked by said asymmetric aperture stop.
3. The lens system of Claim 2, said side portion comprising a crescent shaped portion.
4. The lens system of Claim 3, said side portion comprising a crescent shaped portion encroaching approximately 17% into said aperture.
5. A display system comprising:
 - a light source for providing a beam of light along an illumination path;
 - a micromirror device on said illumination path for receiving said beam of light and selectively reflecting said beam of light along a projection path;
 - a lens system on said projection path, said lens system comprising:
 - at least one lens; and
 - an asymmetric aperture stop receiving light from at least one lens of said at least one lens.
6. The display system of Claim 5, said asymmetric aperture stop forming a predominately circular aperture, said aperture having a side portion thereof blocked by said aperture stop.
7. The display system of Claim 6, said side portion comprising a crescent shaped portion.

8. The display system of Claim 7, said side portion comprising a crescent shaped portion encroaching approximately 17% into said aperture.
9. The display system of Claim 5, comprising at least one lens on said projection path following said asymmetric aperture stop on said projection path.
10. The display system of Claim 5, said at least one lens comprising:
 - a first lens group on said projection path between said micromirror and said asymmetric aperture stop; and
 - a second lens group on said projection path on an opposite side of said asymmetric aperture stop from said first lens group.
11. The display system of Claim 5, said asymmetric aperture stop comprising a circular portion and a blocked portion.
12. A method of projecting an image, the method comprising:
 - receiving an illumination light beam along an illumination path;
 - selectively reflected said illumination light beam along a projection path in response to image data;
 - focusing selectively reflected light using a projection lens; and
 - blocking a portion of light passing through said projection lens using an asymmetric aperture.
13. The method of Claim 12, said blocking step comprising:
 - blocking said portion using an aperture stop forming a predominately circular aperture having an offset blocking region.
14. The method of Claim 13, wherein said blocking region is a crescent shaped region.

15. The method of Claim 13, wherein said blocking region is a crescent shaped region having a radius equal to a radius of said circular aperture and a maximum thickness equal to 17% of a diameter of said circular aperture.